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## WORRIED TO DEATH. SUICIDE OF A EUROPEAN CIVIL SERVANT IN THE F.M.S.

An inquiry has just been concluded, before Mr. A. W. Just, Senior Magistrate, Kuala Lumpur, into the circumstances surrounding the tragic death of Mr. J. W. C. Ellis, Deputy Controller of Labour, who committed suicide by shooting himself on July 4th. The sudden death of this popular Civil Servant created a great sensation in the F.M.S., and, allegations having been made that he committed suicide owing to unfair treatment by the Government, much more than usual interest was evinced in the Magisterial inquiry.

The Hon. Mr. F. Belfield, Legal Adviser, and Mr. J. McCabe Reay, Deputy Public Prosecutor, appeared for the F.M.S. Government, while Mr. H. N. Ferrers, the most successful lawyer in Kuala Lumpur, represented the deceased's relatives and friends.

Among the witnesses called were Sir Edward Brockman (Chief Secretary, F.M.S.), the Hon. Mr. R. G. Watson (who acted as Chief Secretary for four months when the former was on leave in Japan), Mr. L. McLean (Registrar of the Supreme Court, F.M.S.), Mr. J. R. O. Alworth (Controller of Labour, S.S. and F.M.S.), and Mr. M. S. H. McArthur (Under Secretary, F.M.S.).

Mr. L. McLean, acting Registrar of the Supreme Court, F.M.S., said he was well acquainted with the deceased. They had several conversations concerning the inquiry which was pending regarding a report which he had made on the Hoscoe Estate. The general tenor of Ellis' remarks was that of concern. These conversations went on until about a week before the inquiry began. The first time he seemed to take a serious view of the inquiry was when he spoke of a conversation he had had with Mr. Aldworth, who informed him that the Chief Secretary had said that he had better engage counsel to represent him. That was early in May. He seemed to be very much disturbed about it. Later, he asked witness: "Don't you think it unfair that I should be treated in this way? Whenever I asked for an inquiry, the Chief Secretary refused. Now an inquiry has been instituted without my being asked for any explanation of my conduct. On another occasion deceased informed that his position in the Government Service would be injured, even if he were successful at the inquiry. Another remark he made in April last was that 'everyone seems to know a Commission has been appointed, but the Department has received no official notification.'"

Continuing, witness said the deceased was of a very sensitive disposition, more so than the average person. He seemed to exaggerate the importance of the inquiry and to think he was the only Government official concerned. So far as witness knew, he had no other matters to trouble him.

Mr. John Richard O. Aldworth, Controller of Labour, S.S. and F.M.S., said: About May 5th I had a conversation with Mr. Ellis regarding the employment of counsel. I told him that the Under Secretary had informed me that the Commission was to be held and that the Chief Secretary had instructed him to advise Mr. Ellis to employ, personally, legal advice. The question as to the payment of such assistance would depend upon the finding of the Commission. I was also authorised to tell him there would be a representative of the Labour Department. I told him the information came from the Chief Secretary. The deceased for several days seemed undecided. He discussed the matter with me repeatedly, and possibly, fortnight later he informed me he had decided to employ legal advice. Subsequently he seemed very upset about the question of payment for his legal representative.

Mr. Reginald George Watson, acting Chief Secretary, F.M.S., said that the letter notifying the Controller of Labour that Mr. Ellis had permission to engage counsel at his own expense, was written by witness' instructions. The reason for this was that in a case of this sort it was the ordinary procedure for an individual to engage counsel and at the conclusion of the inquiry it would be decided whether the Government should bear the expense or not. Witness ordered the letter to be written, because in a case of this kind it would not be fair for the Government to provide money for the defence. The letter was merely meant to convey what it said, namely, that Mr. Ellis could engage legal assistance at his own expense.

The Chief Magistrate delivered his finding as follows: "I find that the body recovered on July 4th, 1918, was that of the late Mr. J. W. C. Ellis, that the cause of death was a gun-shot wound in the head, and that the wound was self-inflicted. "With regard to the state of mind of the deceased, I find that at the time of the act by which he put an end to his life he was of unbalanced mind, and that what broke him down was the anxiety and strain he experienced over the Hoscoe Estate Commission.

"With regard to the part of the inquiry affecting him the evidence shows that he felt strongly that he was not treated fairly by the Government, feelings expressed repeatedly in conversation to his friends and to his official head, and there is no doubt that the anxiety of mind over this inquiry, though for many months he stood it without its affecting his mental balance, did at last push him to take a desperate view of his troubles and put an end to his life.

"Had the deceased real ground for complaining that he was not fairly treated? Was he backed in his official action as he was entitled to be? These are questions which I consider outside my province, and I express no opinion on them. It is sufficient for me to find as a fact that it was the anxiety and strain he experienced in connection with the Hoscoe Enquiry and as far as appears nothing else that broke him down.

## LOTTERIES IN THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS. GOVERNMENT'S CHANGE OF POLICY UPHELD.

Interesting views on the legality of lotteries were expressed at the meeting of the Straits Legislative Council on Sept. 2nd, when a Bill to establish a measure of control over war charities and to legalise lotteries held by permission of the Governor for the raising of money for such charities was passed through all its readings. The Bill gave power to the Governor to grant a licence for the holding of a lottery, on the condition that not less than one-fourth of the proceeds be handed over to a charity connected with the present war.

The Attorney-General, who moved the first reading of the Bill, said, *inter alia*, that the only lottery which would be authorised under the bill would be one which was held for the purpose of raising money, a portion of which would be presented to a war charity and the rest lent to the Imperial Government for the prosecution of the war, through the medium of war bonds, which would be distributed as prizes. That class of lottery would be excluded from the operation of the Common Gaming Laws Ordinance of 1883.

The hon. member went on to refer at length to the history of lottery legislation at home, saying that between 1899 and 1914 some eleven or twelve Acts were passed suppressing lotteries, declaring them to be a "common and public nuisance." In the preamble of one of those Acts it was stated that the Act was passed on the ground that the lotteries were "promoted by certain evil disposed persons who by means thereof most unjustly and fraudulently got to themselves great sums of money." The lotteries were also declared to be "formidable and dangerous rivals" of the State lotteries which were held during that period. Those State lotteries were held for the purpose of raising revenue with which to run the institutions of the country.

In 1894 State lotteries were abolished by statute, but the eleven or twelve statutes to which he had referred remained operative and were in the statute book and in force at the present day. In the course of time it was discovered that there was one lottery which ought to be treated differently from all the others, and that was a lottery promoted by the Art Union or Art Association, the prize in which were paintings, drawings and other works of art and the money subscribed had to be expended in the purchase of those works of art. Accordingly in 1845 an Act was passed legalising such lotteries, the reason given being that they were conducted in good faith and for the encouragement of the fine arts. Let them compare such a lottery with the lottery which he was now asking them to legalise.

In the Art Union lotteries, not one halfpenny went to charity, but in the Straits Settlements lottery, not less than one-fourth (and it might be more) would go to war charities as an unconditioned gift and the rest would be invested in war bonds. He made bold to assert that the most rabid opponent of lotteries must admit that the Art Union lotteries did not stand on the same plane as those now proposed. If the one had been legalised, the other certainly should be. The lottery would give succour and comfort to wounded soldiers and sailors who had risked and all but lost their lives in their efforts to save from destruction the Empire and civilisation. Further, let it not be forgotten, it would raise money for the successful prosecution of the war.

## CHINESE VIEWS.

Dr. Lim Boon Keng said that more than one party had approached him, as no doubt they had approached other members, asking him to oppose the bill. The reasons assigned could not be dismissed without consideration. The parties concerned would come under the heading of what Robert Burns called the "rigidly righteous." (Laughter.) They brought forward moral and religious questions which certainly ought to have the fullest consideration. Personally he regretted that he was unable to accept the views so temptingly put forward—he said temptingly because the persuasion was such a force tending to shove one onwards to the gates of heaven that it was difficult not to feel oneself pushed on. (Laughter.) Nevertheless, after dreaming about high things, they were still on this earth.

The most serious objection raised, one that could not be overlooked, was that by passing that legislation they would be lowering the prestige of the British Government. He thought that a method by which a slur was cast on the Government, in what he considered a most unjustifiable manner—it came with the cloak of sanctity and holiness, and was apt to give many people a wrong idea as to the wisdom of those who opposed the measure. He thought that the methods adopted by the opponents had probably done great harm in making ignorant people think that the Government was going to do something wicked and immoral, which was absolutely untrue. It might be remembered that the Chinese people had taken the greatest interest in the suppression of gambling. No doubt, many Chinese gambled, but the sense of the community was strongly against the Government sanctioning gambling. But he was glad to say that the Chinese community, as represented by the prominent merchants and others who knew what business was, had no objection to a lottery such as that described by the Attorney-General. (Applause.) They looked at things from a practical standpoint.

## THE GOVERNOR AND THE BISHOP.

The Hon. Mr. F. S. James, the Colonial Secretary, said the matter had been freely discussed chiefly by the churches and the newspapers. Certain statements had been made to the effect

that the Government had broken its promise. One of the evening papers in the Settlement recently published an article in which it made that statement and there had also been correspondence on the subject of the so-called promise between the Governor and the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Singapore. Last year a letter was sent to the Bishop of Singapore by the Governor dated September 10th, in which it was stated that a public announcement would be made in the Press that no promise would be given in the future that organisers of lotteries would not be prosecuted. In that letter there was a proviso to the effect that such an announcement did not bind the Government for all time. The Bishop in a letter, dated August 16th, this year, wrote to the Governor and said that practically the Government was breaking its promise and declaring that the statement in the letter quoted did not give the Government the moral right to withdraw from its promise in such an exceedingly short time as one year. He (the speaker) thought he could not do better than quote the Governor's reply to the Bishop's remarks on that point.

Right Reverend Sir, I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th inst., on the subject of lotteries.

Your first point appears to deal with the meaning to be attached to the expression 'for all time'—I informed you that the announcement relating to the Government's policy both in the Colony and the Malay States did not bind the Government for all time. Your contention is that 'such an announcement does not give the Government the moral right to withdraw from its promise in such an exceedingly short time as one year. I cannot agree with you. It is obvious to my mind that the expression 'means for an indefinite period.' To my mind, it is obvious, too, that such an expression must be construed with regard to the circumstances. I am advised, and firmly believe, that circumstances have changed since the time when those letters were written. The appeals for funds to the Red Cross are stronger and more urgent, and unless further lotteries are allowed certain money which cannot be obtained by other means will not be forthcoming for the purchase of comforts for our soldiers and sailors.

Another point on which stress was laid in the letter from the Bishop was that the letter addressed from his (the Colonial Secretary's) office and signed by himself to the firms of accounts in the town answered practically on the same lines as the Governor's letter to the Bishop, but did not contain the proviso that it did not bind the Government for all time. That letter was dated on September 10th, three days after the Governor's own letter written on the 7th. There was no question, of course, that his office could have seen that both letters were written exactly in the same manner. On that point he would again read to the Council what the Governor wrote to the Bishop:

"I understand your second point to be that, in a letter written by the Colonial Secretary to Messrs. Barker & Co., on September 19, last, there was no such saving clause as that above mentioned in my letter of September 7th to you. It is obvious that the latter letter should have contained the saving clause of the earlier letter; and ask you to accept my assurance that it was only by an oversight that it was omitted."

He would say, as Colonial Secretary, that he regretted the oversight. He felt sure that one or two of the hon. members knew to a certain extent the volume of papers a wretched Colonial Secretary had to deal with during the day, and he thought it was not a very serious offence against him if occasionally he put his name to a letter part of which did not convey all that it ought to.

The Bishop, as would be noticed, had suggested—and it was also referred to in the paper he had quoted—that a grant of money should be made to the Red Cross or other war charities from the revenue of the Colony. That matter was discussed with the unofficial members of Singapore in 1917 and at that time both the unofficial members and the official consisting of the Governor and myself were of opinion it was undesirable to grant funds towards war charities from the Colony's revenue and, further, the views of the F.M.S. Government were against such a proposal.

## GOVERNMENT PROMISE NOT BROKEN.

He trusted he had disposed of the allegation that the Government had broken its promise and said he neither agreed with the statement nor the spirit indicated in that statement. They were at war. Sudden changes came almost daily, and even if promises were given one day it might be easily necessary to break them the next. It had been hoped that the war would have been over by now, and if it had been over there would have been no question of not carrying out the undertaking given regarding the lottery.

The war was not over and there was a most pressing and outstanding need to assist the sick and wounded and to help the mother country with funds for the prosecution of the war, and in this connection he proceeded to quote a speech by Mr. Austen Chamberlain as showing the impossibility of the present day of adhering literally to promises which might be made. In how many cases since the war began, he asked, had not principle had to give way to what might be called expediency?

He had been attacked as the outstanding person who had advocated lotteries. When he came to Singapore a little over two years ago he found that not enough had been done in 1915 on behalf of the Red Cross and he had come from a small

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## THE SOLUTION OF THE SIBERIAN QUESTION.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS".]

SIR,—I have read with great interest your leading article "The Transformation in Siberia" of the 16th inst.

The situation in Siberia has changed with dramatic suddenness, but the end is not yet. Who can say what will be the outcome of the struggle between the Czech-Slovaks and the Bolsheviks, the former supported by the Allies and the latter by their unscrupulous German task-masters.

Intelligent observers can see that there are going to be complications, which may endanger the peace of the world. Surely we do not want to see and experience another world war.

In these days of war and bloodshed, and great ideals—League of Nations, universal peace, independence and integrity of small States and the protection of the weak, rectification of boundaries and the freeing of enslaved and subject races—it is clear to all thinking men and politicians that the real solution of the Siberian question is the complete restoration of the territory to China, from whom it was systematically plundered by Yermak and others, and, subsequently, forcibly wrested and annexed by the Russian Government in the year 1857.

Historically, geographically, and ethnologically Siberia belongs to China, and, in the interests of universal peace, may we hope that the coming League of Nations will see that Siberia is finally restored to China, its original and lawful owner. "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's." Yours truly, TSE TSAN TAI.

Hongkong, 17th September, 1918.

## SHELL TRANSPORT AND TRADING COMPANY.

A question of considerable importance to the shareholders in the Shell Transport and Trading Co., Ltd., has been decided by Mr. Justice Sargent in the Chancery Division. The point was whether in connection with the allotment of the new 1,000,000 ordinary shares allottees were entitled to participate, *pari passu*, with the ordinary shares existing on June 30th, 1917, in the dividend declared by the company on December 11th, 1917, notwithstanding that the actual allotment of such new ordinary shares might have been made subsequently to the date of the declaration of the dividend. His Lordship decided they were entitled to it.

## HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LTD.

The approximate statement of traffic receipts for the week ending 14th September is as follows:—

|                | Receipts for week. | Aggregate receipts for 27 weeks. |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| This Year..... | \$15,553           | \$508,924                        |
| Last Year..... | 12,518             | 499,575                          |
| Increase.....  | 1,735              | 8,349                            |

colony where an appeal had been organised and £18,000 was collected, while in this Colony only £1,000 was realised. At the invitation of the Governor and the Council he undertook to organise the 1918 campaign and £22,000 was realised. There was no question of a lottery that year, although he was approached by several people with the object of starting one. He thought he had better not, although at the same time he would say most frankly and in the most public manner that then he did not consider, just at the same time as now he did not consider, that the slightest harm would come from a lottery properly organised for the purposes of the War Loan with a certain portion of the proceeds going to charity. In 1917 he was asked again to undertake the campaign and did so, but was assured by a number of leading gentlemen not confined to any one Settlement or any one community that if they hoped to raise anything like what they obtained in 1916 a lottery was necessary.

## NOT A CAUSE OF DISHONESTY.

The opponents of the bill seemed to forget that a man who took a ticket in a lottery was actually investing his \$10 in the War Loan and the result whether he wanted a prize or not would not be known for nearly six months. In fact sixty per cent. of subscribers practically wrote off their subscriptions when they paid the money, and if they were lucky enough to win a prize it would come as a delightful surprise.

He certainly did not believe for one minute that a lottery of the description of those held in Selangor, Penang and Singapore caused any dishonesty amongst the clerk class. He did not see how a man could be persuaded to go wrong to try and collect money to purchase tickets for a lottery of which he would not know the result for six months. He could go and get money to deal in shares, the ups and downs of which he could experience every day.



IN CABLE  
FAR EAST.

A CORRESPONDENT.]

THE SITUATION IN SIBERIA.  
[FROM PEKING, September 15th.]  
The Government has presented the ultimatum to General Horvath's troops, an ultimatum to disband or join Semenov's force.

## PRESIDENT'S CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION.

PEKING, September 16th.  
Peking is belaguered to-day on the occasion of the Electoral College presenting the certificate of election to President Hsu Shih-chang, which was followed by a large *troupe* attended by numerous prominent personages.

## PEACE PROSPECTS IMPROVING.

Prospects of peace between the North and South are improving daily.

## CHANGSHA-WUCHANG RAILWAY OPENED.

PEKING, September 17th.  
The railway between Changsha and Wuchang, which has been completed for some time but used for military purposes, was opened on Monday to passenger traffic.

The construction was financed by Great Britain and the work undertaken by British engineers.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOO SAN PO."]

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT.

PEKING, September 17th.  
The Foreign Ministers will visit Hsu Shih-chang to-day to offer their congratulations.

## THE PREMIER TO RESIGN.

Tuan Chi-jui, after meeting his supporters several times, has decided to resign as his policy is regarded as a failure.

## THE CIVIL WAR.

The Fukien people have protested against Lung Chai-kwong's troops going to Fukien.

Tao-Kun left for Hankow yesterday. He is said to have demanded peace recently.

## CANTON NEWS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOO SAN PO."]

CANTON, September 17th.

## A BRITISH PROTEST.

The British Consul in Swatow has informed the Military Government in Canton that Britons and British subjects in Swatow protest against the taxes levied forcibly upon houses and fields by the military leaders. The matter has been reported to the British Minister in Peking and certain gunboats will be sent to the port shortly. The Consul added that it would be an obstacle to foreign recognition of the Military Government if not stopped.

The Military Government has accordingly ordered the leaders in Swatow to discontinue the tax and keep their troops in order.

## FRENCH MISSIONARIES THANKED.

The people of Lui Chow, who have escaped at last from the disasters of the war, have requested the authorities to thank and reward the two French Missionaries who, acting as go-betweens, succeeded in securing for the Canton forces the reoccupation of Lui Chow and the surrender of Lung's troops.

## REPRESENTATIVES TO FOREIGN POWERS.

We are informed that the Military Government has decided to send certain representatives to Foreign Powers, in spite of recognition having not been accorded, yet. Representatives will be sent to Japan shortly.

## THE SIBERIAN SITUATION.

## A BIG COSSACK FORCE.

PEKING, September 8th.

Sir Charles Elliot, the British Plenipotentiary at Vladivostok, is leaving for the west. His first stage will probably be Irkutsk.

Visitors from Omsk state that 500,000 Cossacks in Siberia are available and desirous to establish a new Russian front with a view to finally ejecting the Germans from the whole of Russia.

There is no indication yet of the immediate aims of the Allies regarding the Czechs beyond their desire to unite all parties.

THE BITTER BIT.  
SERIOUS AFFRAY AT YUAMATI REFUGE.  
CONSTABLE CONVICTED OF MISCONDUCT.

At the Hongkong Magistracy, yesterday, Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, concluded the hearing of the case in which three Chinese were charged with having assaulted certain Chinese with intention to commit a felony. The first defendant, a constable in the Water Police, was further charged with having misbehaved himself in his capacity as constable.

Inspector Gordon prosecuted, with the assistance of Mr. G. R. Haywood, who watched the case on behalf of some of the sampan owners. Mr. M. K. Lo appeared for the constable, and Mr. F. N. d'Almada for the third defendant.

Sergeant Perkins said that at about 7.30 on the night in question he was on duty on the Police launch when he heard a commotion in the Yuamati Refuge. Hearing a splashing in the water, he proceeded to the spot, and found the first defendant (the constable) whom he pulled out. Witness then proceeded to another sampan, where he found a Chinese in the custody of a Police sergeant. He took both men to the Water Police Station, the complainants following. The first defendant had swum 40 yards away from the sampan before he was picked up.

When this witness had concluded his evidence a discussion arose as to the application made by Mr. Lo on the previous day that the first and third defendants be discharged on the ground that no evidence of the assault with which they were charged had been offered by the prosecution, and that, as they were not guilty of the assault, the charge of attempted felony could not be brought against them except as a different case.

The Magistrate admitted, as regards the first defendant, that there was not sufficient evidence of assault. On the previous day Mr. Lo had said that he did not know of what the first defendant was guilty, if not of assault. He (the Magistrate) thought that the man was undoubtedly guilty of disorderly conduct. As the first charge of assault might fail it was hardly worth while to find him guilty of this small offence (disorderly conduct) if he was already found guilty of the second charge of misconduct in his capacity of constable.

Mr. Lo said he had only tried to save the time of the Court. He had asked Inspector Gordon and had been told that the only other evidence was formal evidence of arrest. He had, therefore, submitted that there was no evidence of assault against his client.

The Magistrate: With what object?

Mr. Lo: That the first defendant be discharged.

The Magistrate said that if the second defendant were found guilty of felony, the first defendant might be considered a principal in the second degree.

Mr. Lo argued that the first defendant could not be considered guilty of intention to commit felony if he had not committed the assault which was supposed to have prepared the way for the felony. The first defendant was entitled to a discharge. He quoted from English Law to the effect that if a man had committed a different offence from that for which he was charged he was entitled to be acquitted.

The Magistrate observed that he had the right to alter a charge from one offence to another, akin or allied to the first. For instance, if a man was charged with assault, he could alter the charge, after hearing the facts, to one of disorderly conduct. He might now inform the prosecution that he proposed to alter the charge against the first defendant from assault to disorderly conduct.

Mr. Lo said that, as the Magistrate had already stated that his application was premature, it would, perhaps, be the best course to allow the prosecution to close their case, and then make his formal application for the discharge of his client.

After some more discussion, Inspector Gordon said he would like to make an additional charge of disorderly conduct against all the three accused, and a further charge of impersonating a constable against the third defendant.

Mr. d'Almada took formal objection to this charge being entered against his client at that stage of the proceedings. The Magistrate said that he would have the opportunity of recalling all the witnesses, if he wished, in regard to this extra charge.

Mr. d'Almada submitted that there was no evidence at all to support such a charge.

The Magistrate replied that he had carefully read the evidence and had come to the conclusion that a charge of that nature might be well supported. There was always one thing that could be done and that was to let the men go on the charges at present against them, and re-arrest them on any other charges which the Police might wish to bring against them.

Mr. d'Almada admitted that this could always be done.

The Magistrate intimated that he thought the first defendant could be charged with disorderly conduct.

In answer to a question by Mr. Lo as to the section under which he could alter the charge, the Magistrate said that Mr. Lo surely realised that if a man was first charged for assault the charge could later be altered to one of disorderly conduct.

Mr. Lo submitted that there was no evidence of disorderly conduct against his client. He might have gone to the sampan in his zeal for duty, and, when the alarm was given, jumped into the water. It might have been that the defendants knew that the sampan contained opium, and went on the boat to get a share of the spoil.

The Magistrate pointed out that the facts showed that that was not what actually happened.

Mr. Lo contended that the facts did not prove that his client was guilty of an assault.

Inspector Gordon suggested that the case might be gone on with on the present charges. If the defendants were discharged, he would arrest them again and bring them up on other charges.

The Magistrate, in closing the discussion, observed that it was possible, and was a practice in the Courts, for a Magistrate to alter charges, as he had indicated, to charges akin or allied to the original charge.

Inspector Gordon deposed that the first defendant was a seaman at the Water Police Station, No. 477. On September 6th, 1916, the Captain-Superintendent of Police issued an order that no Indian or Chinese member of the Force must make any seizure or search for opium without first reporting to a British officer. This order was on the Police Regulations. On September 4th, 1918, the defendant made no report to witness that he wanted to make any search or seizure, and if he did make any seizure it was contrary to the Order referred to.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lo: The first defendant joined the Force on October 19th, 1915. The order was made known to the constables through the interpreters. All the general orders were read to the constables at least once a week. It was very improbable that the first defendant could not have known of this particular order.

The Magistrate read the statement of the first defendant that he was walking along the Praya wall when he heard a noise and saw men running towards him. He tried to stop one and was pushed into the water.

Mr. Lo submitted that there was no evidence against the first defendant on the charge of assault, and the Magistrate, agreeing, discharged the first defendant on the first charge. On the second charge Mr. Lo argued that, inasmuch as the constable had not been authorised by an officer to go on the sampan and had not gone in his capacity as a constable, he could not have misbehaved himself in his capacity as a constable.

Mr. d'Almada maintained that there was no evidence whatsoever against his client, who was therefore entitled to an acquittal.

The third defendant was discharged.

The Magistrate found the first defendant guilty of misconduct in his character of constable. He also found the second defendant guilty of assault.

Inspector Gordon asked for a heavy sentence on the ground that offences by constables against that particular order were very numerous. He had 50 pages in his report book during the past six weeks for a similar offence.

Mr. Lo pressed for a lenient sentence, arguing that it was unfair that the defendant should be made to suffer for the offences of others.

The Magistrate sentenced the first and second defendants to undergo three months' hard labour each.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.  
POSSESSION OF AMMUNITION.

A Chinese was charged with being in unlawful possession of ten rounds of ammunition.

Inspector Grant stated that he visited a house in Connaught Road West and searched it. He found the ammunition, an empty cartridge box, and three rounds of dummy cartridges used for the purpose of testing a revolver.

Defendant stated that the ammunition was left in his house by a passenger.

Mr. Wood remarked that, as defendant appeared to be a law-abiding citizen, he would only fine him \$25. The ammunition was confiscated.

## LOTTERY TICKETS.

A Chinese machine-tailor was charged with being in unlawful possession of lottery tickets.

Inspector Grant stated that the Police visited a house in Stanley Street and when they reached the second floor a detective noticed defendant, who was sitting on a bed, throwing something out of the window. The detective went downstairs and picked up a bundle, which contained tickets. A search was made and the Police found in the cock-loft a further collection of tickets. In a chatty in the kitchen a few Po Piu lottery tickets were found.

Defendant stated that the tickets did not belong to him.

On the ground that there was insufficient evidence against defendant, he was discharged.

## ALLEGED FORGERY.

A Chinese was charged, on remand, with forging the signature of Mr. Cho Shin on a bank draft payable at the Bank of Taiwan.

The case for the prosecution was that Mr. Cho Shin lost a pocket-book in Kowloon, containing \$37 in notes and a bank draft for \$32. The Bank of Taiwan, at which the draft was payable, was informed, and, when defendant presented it to be cashed he was arrested. His house was searched, and the pocket-book discovered. The money had all been spent.

An Indian Police-sergeant stated that, when arrested, defendant stated that the draft had been given to him by a Portuguese to be cashed.

A Chinese bank clerk stated that when defendant presented the cheque the signature had already been affixed. Witness asked defendant to sign his name and he did so.

Mr. Wood remanded the case till Saturday.

## SNATCHING \$154.

A Chinese was charged with snatching a purse containing \$154 from another Chinese in Wing Lok Street.

Complainant stated that on Monday evening he was proceeding in the direction of Wing Lok Street, when defendant came up from behind and snatched from him the purse containing the money. Witness immediately turned round and arrested defendant, calling out at the same time for assistance. A *lukang* came up and witness handed defendant over to him. Defendant threw the purse on the ground, and it was picked up by the constable.

Defendant said that he and complainant were in a shop and suddenly heard a commotion in the street. They both ran out, and complainant dropped his purse on the ground. Witness asked complainant to pick up the purse, but he refused, and when a constable came to the place he (witness) was arrested. Inspector Kent stated that defendant had a previous conviction against him for theft and had also been banished for five years.

Mr. Wood sentenced defendant to six months' hard labour.

## A PROSECUTION WHICH FAILED.

The manager of the Cheong Sing Loon firm, importers and exporters, was summoned for exporting a consignment of old zinc and wire in excess of the amount specified in the permit.

Mr. D. W. Tratman, Superintendent of Imports and Exports, prosecuted, and Mr. Agassiz defended.

Mr. Tratman stated that defendant had applied to export 30 piculs of old zinc and 150 piculs of iron wire, but when the consignments reached Kobe it was discovered that an alteration had been made in the permit and that the firm had exported 37 piculs of old zinc and 180 piculs of iron wire. This was in excess of the quantity stated in the permit.

Mr. Agassiz stated that a mistake must have been made by the authorities in Kobe. He cited the recent cotton-reef case in support of his argument, stating that no reliance could be placed on Japanese weights.

Mr. Tratman informed the Magistrate that he summoned defendant because he had altered the permit. He thought, however, that defendant, who was a big merchant, had no intention of defrauding. Mr. Wolfe discharged defendant.

## TYPHOON WARNING.

The following telegram has been received by the American Consulate-General, Hongkong, from the Manila Observatory:—

4 p.m., Sept. 17th.  
Cyclone or typhoon S.E. of Guam, direction unknown.

LANE,  
CRAWFORD & Co.

SOLE AGENTS FOR SPALDING'S ATHLETIC GOODS.

## SPECIAL NOTICE

to  
CLUB SECRETARIES

AS

THE OPENING SEASON  
FOR  
FOOTBALL, CRICKET & HOCKEY  
IS QUICKLY APPROACHING.

WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY OF STATING

THAT WE HAVE AN EXCELLENT  
SELECTION OF THE NECESSARY  
REQUISITES FOR THESE GAMES

MANUFACTURED BY  
WELL-KNOWN BRITISH MAKERS.

SPECIAL TERMS TO CLUBS, COLLEGES,  
AND  
SERVICE TEAMS.

Certain-teed  
Roofing

A "built-up" roof is the best for any building—office, hotel, godown, residence, factory, outhouse. Such a roof made of Certain-teed is durable and gives the maximum of service. Certain-teed is backed with a definite Guarantee.

We have an expert crew of men to do the work under foreign supervision. For specifications, estimates, prices, etc., write or call.



Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd.,  
Sole Agents,  
Hotel Mansions, Missions Building,  
HONGKONG. CANTON.



## Wm. Powell Ltd

TELEPHONE 346

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FOR

## ST. ANDREW'S DAY

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## TARTAN RIBBONS

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Wm. POWELL, Ltd.,

DES VŒUX ROAD.

## SHING KEE CO.

SODA MERCHANTS,  
IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS  
OF

Caustic Soda, Soda Ash, Muric acid of Ammonia, Silicate of Soda, Refined Bicarbonate of Soda, Mineral Water, and Soda Crystal, Bleaching Powder, Sulphur Acid, Sulphate of Ammonia, etc., etc.

ALWAYS IN STOCK.

No. 22, DES VŒUX ROAD, WEST, HONGKONG



## NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

## HONGKONG GYMKEANA CLUB

THE attention of Members is drawn to an URGENT NOTICE with reference to "OUR DAY" GYMKEANA, posted at the Hongkong Club, Race Course, and Stables. [2430]

## NOTICE

THE OFFICES AND STATIONS OF CHINESE MARITIME CUSTOMS for Kowloon and District will be CLOSED to PUBLIC BUSINESS TO-MORROW (THURSDAY), the 19th instant being the date of the AUTUMN HOLIDAY.  
T. D. MOOREHEAD,  
Commissioner of Chinese Customs,  
Kowloon and District.  
York Building,  
Hongkong, 17th September, 1918. [2431]

## ANNOUNCEMENT

THE FAR EAST TELEGRAPH AGENCY announces the establishment in Tokyo of a Branch Office and the appointment of Mr. J. N. PENNINGTON as Correspondent and Chief Agent for Japan.  
FAR EAST TELEGRAPH AGENCY,  
Yokohama.  
JAPAN BRANCH:  
19, Hikkawa-cho, Akasaka-ku,  
Tokyo.  
Telegrams: "Kyokto," Tokyo.  
Telephone: 2631 Shibba. [2432]

## GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC.

TENDERS for SPECIE current in TIENTSIN, up to and for the sum of \$150,000, will be received by the TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT, until 11.30 A.M. on the 19th September, 1918.  
The amount accepted is to be placed by the Tenderer to the credit of an account with the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, Tientsin, so as to be available on the 20th September, 1918.  
Persons tendering to state alternatively (a) The amount of Hongkong currency payable in Hongkong on 20th September, 1918, required for each \$1,000 Tientsin currency and/or  
(b) The amount of Dollars current in Tientsin per \$100 for Telegraphic Transfer on the 20th September, 1918, to the credit of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Ltd., London.  
The tenders to be in duplicate, and in sealed covers, addressed to the TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT, and endorsed "TENDERS FOR GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC."  
The right to accept or reject any or all of the tenders is reserved.  
Copies of Forms of Tender can be had on application.  
Persons tendering for (Bills) are hereby notified that, having regard to the provisions of the Act 22 George III, Cap. 45 and 46, and 47, Geo. III, Cap. 52, the acceptance of any such Tender in respect of the express condition that no Member of the British House of Commons shall be admitted to any share or part in or to any benefit to arise from the Contract thereby made for the allotment of such (Bills).  
The provisions in question do not apply to Contracts entered into by any incorporated Company in its corporate capacity and made for the general benefit of the Company.  
Any further information can be obtained by personal application to the TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, A.P.D.  
F. J. THURSBY-PELLHAM, Lt.-Colonel,  
Treasury Chest Officer, A.P.D.,  
His Majesty's Treasury Office,  
Hongkong, 18th September, 1918. [2433]

## LOST

DIAMOND AND PEARL PLATINUM and GOLD BAR BROOCH. Finder will be rewarded on returning same to C. EDGUMBE, Snowman & Co., York Buildings. [2421]

## NOTICE

WE beg to notify the Public and all our customers that our TELEPHONE NUMBER has since CHANGED from No. 1918 to No. 2750.  
BRITISH-CHINESE TRADING CO.,  
6, Des Vaux Road Central,  
Hongkong, 17th September, 1918. [2422]

## NOTICE

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

CERTIFICATE No. 4100 issued in the name of Miss MARY SAMUEL PRAY, dated the 27th day of January, 1916, for 14 Shares Numbered 13464/77 has been Cancelled and is no longer negotiable, and a new Certificate in the name of Miss MARY SAMUEL PRAY has been issued in lieu thereof.  
Dated this 11th September, 1918.  
C. H. F. RAY,  
per pro. General Manager. [2407]

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

## NOTICE

IN accordance with the Provisions of the new Articles of Association of the Company, the Board of Directors have this day declared an INTERIM DIVIDEND for the First Half-Year ended 30th June, 1918, of THREE DOLLARS (\$3) per Share.  
Dividend Warrants may be obtained on application at the Company's Office on and after the 23rd September, 1918.  
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 10th to 22nd instant, both days inclusive.  
By Order of the Board of Directors,  
J. H. TAGGART,  
Manager.  
Hongkong, 12th September, 1918. [2410]

## INTIMATIONS

## HONGKONG ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Society will be held in the CITY HALL TO-DAY (WEDNESDAY), 18th September, 1918, at 5.30 P.M. for the purpose of receiving the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st August, of electing office-bearers for the ensuing year, &c.  
J. M. GORDON,  
Acting Hon. Secretary.  
Hongkong, 12th September, 1918. [2408]

## THE CHINA-BORNEO CO., LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of THE CHINA-BORNEO COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held at the Office of Messrs. GIBB, LIVINGSTON AND COMPANY, St. George's Building, Victoria, Hongkong, the Registered Office of the above-named Company, on TUESDAY, the 1st day of October, 1918, at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon, when the subjoined Resolution which was passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company held on the 13th day of September, 1918, will be submitted for confirmation as a Special Resolution:

"That the new Articles already approved by this Meeting and for the purpose of identification thereof, subscribed by the Chairman thereof, and the same are hereby approved, and that such Articles be and they are hereby adopted as the Articles of the Company to the exclusion of and in substitution for all the existing Articles thereof."

A copy of the new Articles referred to may be inspected by any Shareholder of the said Company at the Company's Offices in Hongkong, or at the Office of Messrs. GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., Solicitors, at Prince's Building, Victoria, on any week-day between the hours of 10 A.M. and 4 P.M.  
Dated this 12th day of September, 1918.  
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,  
Agents. [2416]

## HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING of Members will be held on TUESDAY, the 1st October, 1918, at 12.30 P.M., at the Office of the HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB, on the ground floor of the HONGKONG CLUB ANNEX, Chester Road.  
A Report will be made at this Meeting as to certain proposals to substitute spectators' stands for some of the Matched hitherto erected on part of the JOCKEY CLUB property and the adjoining Land.  
By Order,  
T. F. HOUGH,  
Clerk of the Course.  
Hongkong, 16th September, 1918. [2420]

## NOTICE

## MOW FUNG &amp; CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Business heretofore carried on at 10, Des Vaux Road Central, Hongkong, by FREDERICK HOWELL and FREDERICK CHARLES MOW FUNG in co-partnership under the style of Mow Fung & Co., has been converted into a Private Limited Company, and will henceforth, and as from the 1st September, 1918, be carried on as before and at the same address under the style of MOW FUNG & COMPANY, LIMITED.  
All contracts relating to goods or merchandise entered into by the Firm of Mow Fung & Co. will be carried out by MOW FUNG & CO., LTD.  
All debts due to and all liabilities of the Firm of Mow Fung & Co. up to and including the 31st August, 1918, will be respectively collected by and paid by the said FREDERICK HOWELL and FREDERICK CHARLES MOW FUNG.  
The Company will be managed or controlled by a Board of Directors, the first Directors being FREDERICK HOWELL, FREDERICK CHARLES MOW FUNG, and SEE TO YUEN.  
By Order of the Directors,  
CHOW YU TING,  
Secretary.  
Hongkong, 16th September, 1918. [2418]

## UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG

## MATRICULATION, SENIOR AND JUNIOR LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that these EXAMINATIONS will commence on MONDAY, December 9th, 1918.  
Arrangements will be made to hold the Examination at any town where a sufficient number of candidates offer themselves.  
Candidates who wish to be examined at any other place than Hongkong or Shanghai must apply to the Registrar on or before October 2nd, 1918.

Forms of entry and all particulars can be obtained on application to the REGISTRAR, The University, Hongkong.  
The entry form duly filled in, must reach the Registrar, together with the fee (Ten Dollars, Hongkong Currency), on or before October 9th, 1918.  
The Examinations will be conducted according to the "Regulations for the Senior and Junior Local Examinations and for the Matriculation Examination 1918," UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG.  
Hongkong, 14th September, 1918. [2419]

## NOTICE

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic Indian, desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.  
Applicants will be required to produce Passports or Identification papers.  
All persons with certain exceptions, who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION or PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916.  
Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the P.O. and at all Police Stations.  
The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

## HOUSES TO LET

## TO LET.

A GODOWN, Central District.  
Apply to—  
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., Ltd.  
[2421]

## TO LET.

A SHOP in Nathan Road, Kowloon.  
KOWLOON MARINE LOT No. 48 suitable for Coal Storage.  
Apply to—  
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.,  
Alexandra Buildings. 2000

## TO LET.

HOUSES on Shamoon, Canton.  
Apply to—  
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., Ltd.  
[2422]

## WANTED.

AN OFFICE in Central locality. State reply to—  
Box No. 2434,  
Care of "Daily Press" Office. [2424]

## WANTED.

A FOREIGN NURSE to take charge of two little Girls (age 4 and 2 years) in Peking.  
Write and send references to—  
MADAME SAINT PIERRE,  
Rue de l'Indo-Chine, Peking. [2425]

## DAIRY FARM NEWS

There is no substitute for any Dairy Product.

## FRESH MILK

is both Food and Drink.

Children must have it—adults should have it.

## FRESH CREAM

is concentrated food. [2428]

## GRACIA &amp; CO.

No. 10, WYNDHAM STREET, HONGKONG.  
Dealers in

## POSTAGE STAMPS, VIEW

POST-CARDS, FLOWER

SEEDS, TOYS, &c.

Just received a Selection of

MAMA DOLLS.

I TALK!! [2426]

## WAI KEE

## FLAG &amp; SAILMAKER.

No. 122, Des Vaux Road Central,

Top Floor,

HONGKONG.

Telephone No. 1833. [2427]

## THE PENINSULAR AND

## ORIENTAL STEAM

## NAVIGATION CO.

STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON,

BOMBAY, EGYPT, MEDITER-

RANEAN PORTS AND

LONDON.

THROUGH BILLS OF LADING ISSUED FOR

BATAVIA, AMERICAN, CONTINENTAL

AND SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.

THE Homeward Mail Steamer, carrying His Majesty's Mail, will be despatched from this port as usual, taking Passengers, and Cargo for the above Ports. Passengers, accommodation in the connecting vessel, secured before departure from Hongkong.  
Bills and Valuable Cargo for Italy, France and London (under arrangement) will be conveyed by this Steamer proceeding to Bombay and there transhipped to the oncoming Steamer for Marseilles and London.  
Parcels will be received at the Office until 2 P.M. the day before sailing. The contents and value of all packages are required.  
For further particulars, sailing dates, etc. apply to  
P. L. KNIGHT,  
Acting Superintendent.

## INTIMATION

We have just received

a fresh consignment of

COMPANIA GENERAL  
DE TOBACOS DE  
FILIPINAS.

NUEVO  
CORTADO

EXTRA.

\$3.00 per 100.

A FIRST-CLASS CHEROOT AT A

CHEAP PRICE.

A. S. WATSON &  
CO., LTD.,

CIGAR MERCHANTS.

## BIRTH.

GARCIA.—On 16th September, at 25, Cameron Road, Kowloon, to Mr. and Mrs. ALEX. GARCIA, a daughter. [2428]

## MARRIAGES.

COMPTON-CARISIO.—At Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, on September 17th, by the Dean (the Very Rev. A. J. Walker) A. H. COMPTON, youngest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. T. H. E. Compton, of Andover, Hants, to Miss CARISIO, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. CARISIO, of Shanghai and Milan. [2429]

BLUNT-BLUNT.—At Windsor, on July 20th, Captain HAROLD E. BLUNT, M.C., Yeomanry, formerly of Peking, to KATHLEEN HARRIET, younger daughter of the late Colonel F. C. BLUNT, of Ryde, Isle of Wight.

McBAIN-DAVIS.—At London, on July 25th, Major R. E. R. McBain, M.C., Croix de Guerre, R.F.A. and R.A.F., son of late G. McBain, of Shanghai, to Vera, daughter of late Major J. W. H. Davis. [2430]

## DEATHS.

ANDERSON.—At Tientsin, on July 28th, MARY FRANCES ANDERSON, the dearly cherished and loved daughter of LIONEL JOHN CROSSLEY ANDERSON, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and Molly Josephine (née Noble), his wife, aged 2 years and 1 month.  
BADLEY.—On June 24th, AUDREY, younger daughter of F. J. BADLEY, Northwood, Middlesex, late Hongkong Civil Service, aged 13 years.  
Low.—At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on September 8th, JAMES LOW, of Taiport, Pifeshire, late Engineer C.M.S.N. Co.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VAUX ROAD, C.

LONDON OFFICE: 121, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG 18TH SEPTEMBER, 1918

## THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN JAPAN.

From statements in the Japanese Press it appears that the TERAUCHI Government is likely to be replaced by another Administration at an early date. The present Ministry, it may be noted, depends for its maintenance on the support of the Seiyukai, a political party which is something of a free-lance in politics and of opportunist views. The party decided when the present Government came into power that it would support it so long as it did nothing wrong; which, presumably, meant nothing inimical to the interests of the party, and they are largely agricultural. Recent events have produced some wavering in the Seiyukai ranks and, in consequence, the pressure of the political parties opposed to the

Government has become stronger. Count TERAUCHI, the Premier, is reported to be sick, which, again, naturally tends to make the situation uncertain. As to the causes which have led to a diminution in the popularity of the Government there is much obscurity. It cannot be said that the Siberian expedition is exactly popular in Japan. It is doubtful whether among the people there is any clear idea as to its object. The Press is about evenly divided on the question, but the business interests seem to be opposed to the step, probably through a fear that Japan may be led into deeper waters than she expected and incur heavy expenses for very little return. Even the military party, which has always been ready to support a Siberian expedition and has chafed at the Government's decision not to act on its own initiative in the matter, is dissatisfied because the campaign is not on a more ambitious scale. The chance that under a new Administration the scope of the expedition might be enlarged makes this party not averse from a change of Government, even although Count TERAUCHI is one of their number.

The Government's China policy, also, has fallen into discredit. It may be remembered that when Count TERAUCHI took office he announced that his aim would be to establish friendly relations with the neighbouring Republic. This was in contrast to the course pursued by his predecessor, whose demands led to estrangement. On the whole, Count TERAUCHI has adhered to his declaration in so far as his Administration has shown a willingness to settle all matters in dispute in a reasonable and amicable spirit. Complaints have been made of the weakness of this policy, although to the outsider it would appear that it only followed the natural course of relationship between neighbouring States. The difficulties of the position are, admittedly, aggravated by the unsettled conditions in China and the existence of two opposing Administrations, each of which claims to be the lawful authority. In this matter, however much Japanese feeling may incline to the South, Japan can only act in accord with the other Powers, which have refused so far to recognise any other Government than that constituted at Peking. At the same time as it has adhered to a policy of reconciliation with China the TERAUCHI Ministry has given commercial interests full play in that country, even so far as to take their operations under its wing. These commercial operations have caused some heart-burning in China, even leading to suggestions that the policy of the present Japanese Ministry is no less harmful to Chinese integrity than that of its predecessor. It would seem, however, that the eagerness of China to absorb loans and the amount of new capital in the hands of Japanese capitalists have served to bring about the present situation, which is so unsatisfactory that the Japanese Minister at Peking is reported to be on the point of resigning, presumably as a protest against the Government's laxity in the matter. One of the most successful entrepreneurs in the matter of these Japanese loans has been persuaded to discontinue his activities and return to Japan. On the whole, it may be said that the Government's China policy has not proved successful in removing Chinese suspicion as to Japan's intentions, and this is another cause of the Government's growing unpopularity.

In home affairs Count TERAUCHI has been confronted with difficulties which his Administration has dealt with nervously and ineffectively. A large amount of wealth has flowed into Japan since the war began, and there has been plenty of work for everybody; but the enrichment of Japan has not been general. The cost of living has risen by leaps and bounds, but the workers have only been able to obtain any advance of wages by means of strikes. As an example the case of the coal-miners in the great mining province of Kyushu may be quoted. The price of coal has more than doubled, but so little has been done for the miners by the owners that in a large area of the mining district riots are occurring, troops have been called out, and many people have been killed and injured. The recent food riots were undoubtedly a protest by the workers against the position in which they were placed. There have been attempts to show that these riots originated in political teachings, and even in German conspiracy. Such ideas indicate a lack of knowledge of the true position. The riots have had the effect of opening the purses of the rich and a charity campaign has been started; but the efforts of the Government to get at the root of the trouble have been weak and nerveless, and warnings have been uttered that unless "something else" is done fresh disturbances may be feared. The Government is charged with lack of foresight in regard to the food question and failure to take timely precautions. The situation is certainly a difficult one and it may be thought necessary to put its solution into the hands of a new Administration.

Two cases (of enteric fever) were reported (this) of enteric fever Colony on Monday.  
Mr. F. Holroyd and Electric Company Tientsin Gas to join the Royal Enge left for Home

The annual meeting of St. Andrew's Society at Hongkong the City Hall to-day (Wed) at 5.30 p.m.

The Hongkong and Shanghai has decided to rebuild and extend its Kowloon premises. The land for the extension was purchased some 20 years ago.

Admiral Sir J. R. T. Fullerton, G.C.V.O., C.B., who died recently at the age of 77, commanded the Sapphire on the China Station in 1889.

The formal opening of the new Chinese M.C.A. building, 71, Bridges Street, by H.E. the Officer Administering the Government will take place on October 10th at 4 p.m.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals acknowledges with thanks a donation of \$55 to the funds of the hospitals from the Chinese Wesleyan Church.

Major (acting Lieut.-Col.) G. Badham, Thornhill, D.S.O., R.A., formerly of Hongkong and later a Staff Officer to the Singapore Volunteers, has been mentioned in despatches from Italy.

Lieutenant-Colonel (temp. Brigadier General) R. H. F. McCulloch, D.S.O., R.G.A., a former Commandant of the British detachment at Peking, has been mentioned in despatches from General Sir Herbert Plumer in Italy.

Sir Jonathan Backhouse, Bart., banker, died on July 27th, aged sixty-eight. He is succeeded by his son, Mr. Edmund Trelawny Backhouse, Professor of Chinese, King's College, London, and formerly a well-known resident of Peking.

Captain C. V. de M. Cooper, R.N., who is officially reported killed, served in the China Station on the Audacious some years ago. Later, in China, he commanded the gunboat Plover, and received the medal for the Boxer rising.

The annual meeting of the Church of England Men's Society is to be held on the 24th inst. at 9 p.m. in St. Paul's College. Friends interested are invited to obtain information as to the Society from the Hon. Secretary, care of St. Paul's College.

At the fortnightly meeting of the Sanitary Board, yesterday, the Chairman (Mr. Gibson) announced that a case of anthrax had been discovered amongst the cattle imported from Wuchow, which are in the cattle mart at Kennedy Town. The health of the other cattle was good.

The programme for the forthcoming Shanghai Autumn Race meeting is in all respects similar to that of the Autumn meeting of last year. The races will be held on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, November 11th, 12th and 13th, with the Off Day on Saturday, November 16th.

During the week ended September 14th the following cases of communicable diseases were notified in the Colony: Cerebro-spinal fever, one (one death); diphtheria, one (one death); enteric fever, three (two deaths); puerperal fever, one. One case of enteric was British.

The engagement is announced between Captain S. J. Sassoon, Dragons, eldest son of the late J. S. Sassoon, of Ashley Park, Walton-on-Thames, and Mrs. Sassoon, of Springfield, Walton-on-Thames, and Dulcie, eldest daughter of the late Frederic S. Franklin and Mrs. Franklin, 44, Lancaster Gate, W.

Major J. A. Pym, M.C., R.G.A., well-known in this Command as a sportsman when war broke out, has been wounded. He was reported killed in the early days of the war and his photograph appeared in one of the illustrated home papers as the famous international Rugby player who had been killed. The mistake arose over the confusion of the initials.

Amongst the recipients of honours at the investiture by the King at Buckingham Palace on July 25th was Major Colin R. M. Hutchison, R.F.A., upon whom His Majesty conferred the D.S.O. and a bar to his Military Cross. Major Hutchison is an old Japan boy, having been born in Yokohama. He is a son of Mr. J. D. Hutchison, of Messrs. W. M. Strachan & Co., an old resident in Japan for many years.

The marriage of Major E. D. Matthews, R.G.A., to Miss C. E. Coombe, of Clifton, took place recently. Major Matthews, as a subaltern, was well-known in Hongkong when war broke out. An excellent cricketer, he played a lot while stationed here. As a Lieutenant he was Gunner Instructor to the Royal Artillery, afterwards joining the Hongkong-Singapore Battalion, R.G.A. He was badly wounded in the early days of the war.

The consecration of Dr. Hind to be Bishop in Fukien is practically fixed for October 18th, but the place is not yet determined, as there is a desire to have it in Ireland. "Church-way" is supplying a ring as a gift from Belfast friends, and they have made the Bishop's seal. He is only adopting two of the quarters Bishop Price had—the flying angel bearing a book over the mountains, and the junk on the waters, the other two having no special significance for the diocese. The Bishop's family arms are impaled in the shield.



# THE WAR.

## BRITISH WITHIN FOUR MILES OF ST. QUENTIN.

### ALLIED OPINION OF AUSTRIAN PEACE NOTE:

"A PIECE OF COMEDY THAT WILL DECEIVE NOBODY."

### THE "GALWAY CASTLE" TORPEDOED: ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOUR LIVES LOST.

#### Franco-Belgian Front.

##### LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

#### BRITISH FRONT.

##### STATE OF GERMAN MORAL.

LONDON, September 16th.  
Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters, telegraphing to-day, states:—Our advance in the Ypres canal sector reached a depth of one thousand yards. Forty-seven prisoners were captured.

There was much minor activity in the Cambrai region, where, according to a captured order, the enemy attaches much importance to the retention of the territory.

Indication of the state of the German moral is shown by a captured order referring to the "rumours spread behind the front by people who have lost their nerves." Another threatens with court-martial men returning from the front without their arms.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

#### BRITISH CAPTURE MAISESMY.

LONDON, September 15th.  
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—In a successful minor operation early this morning we captured Maissemy, north-west of Saint Quentin; also the trench system south-east and east of the village, capturing 150 prisoners and a number of machine-guns.

There was considerable hostile artillery firing at a number of points on the battle front south of the Arras-Cambrai road.

#### SUCCESSFUL MINOR OPERATION.

LONDON, September 16th.  
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—A successful minor operation last night astride the Ypres-Comines Canal advanced our line on a front of over two miles. We captured a number of prisoners and machine-guns.

Raiding and patrol encounters occurred in the neighbourhoods of Moeuvres and Gavrelle.

We established new posts in the vicinity of Sauchy-Couchy and Oppy.

#### METZ UNDER LONG-RANGE GUNFIRE.

LONDON, September 15th.  
Reuter's Agency learns that the news to-day from the American Front is highly satisfactory. Since yesterday the Americans advanced between two and three miles on the whole front of 33 miles. Patrols penetrated a further two miles.

It appears the Germans are retreating to the line protecting the railways before Metz.

Metz is under long-range gun-fire. There were six enemy divisions operating in the St. Mihiel salient, their total strength being 60,000, with a reflex strength of 30,000.

Our booty includes masses of material, over a hundred guns of all calibres, and hundreds of machine-guns and trench-mortars. The bridges in the reconquered territory are undamaged.

The British captured Maissemy, north-west of St. Quentin.

The French yesterday captured 2,500 prisoners.

The line at noon ran from Norroy-Rembertcourt-Haumont-Doncourt-Aux-Templiers-Abaucourt, thence to the old line.

The Metz guns are in action.

#### BRITISH ARTILLERY TAKES HEAVY TOLL.

LONDON, September 15th.  
10.50 p.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters, telegraphing this evening, states:—During the twenty-four hours ending at sunset yesterday we captured 290 prisoners from the rear-guard astride the path towards Cambrai.

Our guns have taken a heavy toll of troops on the Hindenburg Line.

The ground between Havrincourt and Gouzeaucourt is a maze of enemy rifle pits, but the heavy rains have flooded many of them and the occupants been forced to leave.

Maissemy, which was captured this morning, stands upon the little spur called "Mont de Garde," which straightens our line through Holnon Wood.

Our advance posts are now less than four miles from Saint Quentin.

Further evidence of the German manpower shortage is the accumulation of men, women and boys who were graded for National Service at home being brought to the back areas to replace the line of communication troops. Boys of 15 years of age are reported as being assembled in the region of Sedan for auxiliary service.

#### AERIAL OPERATION.

LONDON, September 15th.  
9.50 p.m.

Enemy aircraft were more active yesterday. We destroyed four hostile machines, also two two-seaters on the ground during a successful attack from a low height on an aerodrome south of Lille.

Two British machines are missing. We dropped during the past twenty-four hours eight tons of bombs.

##### LATEST CABLES.

#### FRENCH FRONT.

##### FRENCH CAPTURE VAILLY.

PARIS, September 16th.  
A communiqué states we have captured Vailly.

#### THREE HUNDRED PRISONERS.

PARIS, September 16th.  
A communiqué states:—Between the Oise and the Aisne we continued to progress.

At night, east of Vaux-Aillon, we carried Mont-des-Singes taking nearly 300 prisoners.

Further south we captured Vailly. We raided in the region of Leintrey, Lorraine, and took prisoners.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

#### AERIAL ACTIVITY.

PARIS, September 16th.

A communiqué states:—The fine weather on September 4th permitted considerable aerial activity, with very numerous severe fights, in which 14 enemy machines were brought down and seven balloons set on fire. Enemy troops were aerially machine-gunned, and six-and-a-half tons of bombs were dropped on enemy assemblages.

Over 23 tons of bombs were dropped at night on railway stations at Laon, Comblains, etc.

#### VIOLENT ENEMY COUNTER-ATTACK.

South-east of the Oise the enemy again counter-attacked violently, but everywhere our positions were maintained.

We captured to-day the plateau east of Vaux-Aillon.

Further south we advanced beyond Meune Jean Farm, capturing the crest north-east of Celles-sur-Aisne.

Since yesterday morning we captured over 3,500 prisoners.

#### CELEBRITY OF AMERICANS.

PARIS, September 16th.  
The French correspondents emphasise the cleverness of the Americans in hustling the Germans so that the latter basely began removing their artillery, leaving the infantry uncovered and subjected to a hail of fire from our advancing batteries, but despite the elaborate German precautions the American booty and guns are steadily increasing.

#### FIERCE FIGHTING AT TIGER WOOD.

LONDON, September 16th.  
3.45 a.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at French Headquarters reports:—There was very fierce fighting on Sunday at Tiger Wood, near Vailly, where the French overcame a stubborn resistance and advanced their line.

General Mangin captured Hill 154, east of Vaux-Aillon.

Meune Jean dominates the Soissons-Maubourge road, two kilometres from the end of the Chemin-des-Dames.

The French occupied Hill 169, dominating Vailly, at the head of the Sancy and Jouy valleys.

Judged by the corpses the enemy losses were exceptionally heavy.

The Germans are still holding the Plateau Jouy, but the French overlook their positions.

#### GERMAN SCIENTIST CAPTURED.

LONDON, September 16th.  
Reuter's Correspondent at American Headquarters states that the Americans captured in Triaucourt Professor Otto Schmeinkase, an exploiter of chlorine gas for military purposes, who, it was reported, had been developing some new atrocity of *kultur*.

#### TWO HUNDRED GUNS CAPTURED.

LONDON, September 16th.  
3.00 a.m.

An American report states:—In the St. Mihiel sector there was increased artillery and aviation activity.

An enemy counter-attack at daybreak near St. Hilaire was easily repulsed and a number of prisoners captured. On the left bank of the Moselle our lines have been advanced from one to two miles, and now include the towns of Vilecy and Norroy.

The normal extension of our lines beyond Jaulny resulted in bringing in 72 additional guns which were abandoned by the enemy in his hasty retreat. This brings the total of guns captured to over 200.

#### PRESIDENT CONGRATULATES PERSHING.

WASHINGTON, September 15th.  
Cabling congratulations to General Pershing on the St. Mihiel victory, President Wilson says: "The boys have done what we expected of them, and done it in the way we most admire. We are deeply proud of them and their chief."

#### A GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, September 15th.  
7.40 p.m.

A German official report states:—Von Carlowitz's Army is again engaged in a heavy battle between the Ailette and the Aisne.

In the region of Allemant the enemy pressed forward across the height east of Laflaux.

##### General.

##### LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

#### INTER-ALLIED NAVAL COUNCIL.

PARIS, September 16th.

The Inter-Allied Naval Council met, the French Minister of Marine presiding. There were also present Admiral Wemyss, Great Britain; Admiral Sims, United States; besides the Italian and Japanese Representatives.

##### OBITUARY.

#### WELL-KNOWN RACEHORSE TRAINER.

LONDON, September 16th.

The death is announced of Mr. James East, the well-known racehorse trainer.

##### EARLIER CABLES.

#### AUSTRIAN PEACE PROPOSAL.

LONDON, September 16th.

The Austrian Peace Note, of which the first part appeared in yesterday's issue, continues:—

With this consciousness and unswerving endeavouring to labour in the interest of peace, the Austro-Hungarian Government now again comes forward with a suggestion with the object of bringing about a direct discussion between the enemy Powers. The earnest will to peace of the broad classes of the population of all States, who are jointly suffering through the war, is indisputable. A rapprochement in individual and controversial questions as well as a more general conciliatory atmosphere seems to us to give a certain guarantee that a fresh peace step might at present offer a possibility of success.

#### AUSTRIAN ADHERENCE TO 1918 TERMS.

The Note, which is in French, follows thus:—The peace offer which the Quadruplice addressed to their opponents on December 12th, 1918, and whose conciliatory and basic ideas they have never given up, signifies, despite its rejection, an important stage in the history of this war.

The question of peace has from that moment stood in the centre of European and, indeed, world discussion, and has occupied and dominated it in an ever-increasing measure. Almost all the belligerents have in turn again and again expressed themselves on the question of peace and its pre-requisites and conditions. The line of development of these discussions, however, has not been uniform and steady. The basic standpoint has changed under the influence of the military and political position, and hitherto it has not led to any tangible or practically utilisable general result. It is true that the distance between the conceptions of the two sides has, on the whole, somewhat decreased, so that, despite the continuance of decided and hitherto unbridged differences, a partial turning from many of the most extreme concrete war aims is visible, and a certain agreement relative to the general basic principles of a world peace manifests itself.

#### GROWTH OF FEELING IN BELLIGERENT COUNTRIES.

In both camps there is undoubtedly observable in the broad classes of the population a growth of the will to peace and understanding. Moreover, a comparison of the reception of the peace proposal of the Quadruplice by their opponents with the later utterances of responsible statesmen of the latter, as well as of the non-responsible but in no wise politically unimportant personalities, confirms this impression. For example, whilst the Allies' reply to President Wilson made demands amounting to the dismemberment of Austria-Hungary, the diminution and profound internal transformation of Germany and the destruction of Turkey's European ownership, these demands, whose realisation are based on the supposition of an overwhelming victory, were later modified in many official *Entente* declarations, or partly dropped. Thus Mr. Balfour, in the House of Commons, a year ago, expressly recognised that Austria-Hungary must itself solve its internal problem and that nobody could draw up a Constitution for Germany from the outside. Mr. Lloyd George, at the beginning of 1918, declared that it was not an Allied war aim to partition Austria-Hungary, rob the Ottoman Empire of its Turkish Provinces and reform Germany internally. It may also be considered symptomatic that in December, 1917, Mr. Balfour categorically repudiated the assumption that British policy had ever been the creation of an Independent State out of the territories on the left bank of the Rhine.

#### NO SERIOUS OBJECTION TO PRES. WILSON'S PRINCIPLES.

After affirming that the Central Powers are only waging a war of defence, for the integrity and security of their territories, the Note proceeds:—Far more outspoken than in the domain of concrete war aims has a rapprochement of conceptions proceeded regarding the guiding lines upon which peace shall be concluded. President Wilson, in speeches on February 12th and July 4th this year, formulated principles which his Allies have not contradicted and whose far-going application is likely to meet with no objection from the Quadruplice, pre-supposing that this application is general and reconcilable with the interests of the States concerned. Agreement on general principles does not suffice. It is a matter of reaching accord on their interpretation and application to individual concrete war and peace questions. The unprejudiced observer cannot doubt that in all the belligerent States the desire for a peace of understanding has enormously strengthened, and that a continuance of the bloody struggle must transform Europe into ruins without any guarantee of bringing a decision by arms.

#### VERBAL DISCUSSION ON FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES.

The Note affirms that there is no serious prospect of reaching an understanding by continuing to discuss peace in the way hitherto followed. Therefore, another method should be chosen which would enable a direct verbal discussion solely between the representatives of Governments. The subjects of such a discussion would include the opposing conceptions of the individual belligerent States and mutual enlightenment, as well as general principles that shall serve as a basis for peace, regarding which, in the first place, agreement can be sought with a prospect of success. As soon as agreement is reached on fundamental principles, an attempt must be made to concretely apply them to individual peace questions, and thereby bring about their solution.

#### WAR ACTIVITIES NOT TO BE INTERRUPTED.

The Note explains that war activities would not be interrupted and the discussion would only go so far as the participants considered they offered a prospect of success. No disadvantages could arise therefrom for the States represented. What at first does not succeed can be repeated, and mountains of old misunderstandings might be removed and many new things perceived. All the belligerents owe it to humanity jointly to examine whether after a costly and undecided struggle, whose entire course points to an understanding, it is possible to end the terrible struggle. The Austro-Hungarian Government, therefore, proposes that all the belligerent Governments send delegates to a confidential and non-binding discussion on basic principles for the conclusion of peace in a neutral country at an early date.

The *Daily News* says:—There can be no question of the Allies' compromising their fundamental principles. On the other hand, there is more than a remote prospect that discussions which might leave Germany obdurate might have a very different result in the case of Turkey and Bulgaria, or even Austria.

#### FRENCH PRESS COMMENTS.

*Le Journal* says the offer is an admission of weakness. The only way to convince the German people that Germany is beaten is for the Allies to fix peace conditions.

*Le Flamme Libre* says: We will refuse the offer. Our victorious forces are driving out the invaders, and we shall not allow them to lay down their arms.

*Le Petit Parisien* says the proposal will not deceive anybody.

*Le Excelsior* says it is not clever to have chosen the present time for the proposal, when the Central Powers' failure in arms is obvious.

*Le Petit Journal* says the Central Powers' tone was different when they thought Germany was winning in the spring. Austria is now testing the ground, and if the test fails Germany will disavow all connection with it.

*Le Matin* says such an obvious piece of comedy will deceive nobody.

#### GERMAN PRESS COMMENT.

AMSTERDAM, September 16th.

The general tone of the German Press comments on the Austrian Note is one of surprise that such a Note has been sent, coupled with scepticism regarding its efficacy.

The independent *Tägliche Rundschau* regrets that Austria has not learnt wisdom from her former experiences.

The Conservative *Tagess Zeitung* does not expect anything tangible.

The Liberal *Vossische Zeitung* says Austria must bear the responsibility of this dangerous separate action.

The *Berliner Tageblatt* is of opinion that the Note will stimulate the Allies to further exertions.

The *Forworts* declares that Germany must support Austria. The Note will be welcomed generally by the German people.

#### THE TIME TO STRIKE AUSTRIA HARD.

WASHINGTON, September 16th.

The Associated Press has learned that the view in official quarters regarding Austria's Peace Note is that "Austria is cracking, and instead of wasting time with utterly useless peace talk now is the time to strike her very hard."

It is authoritatively stated that the United States, in the event of any action, will move in full concert with the Allies. Moreover, there can be only one answer, namely, President Wilson's concluding passage in his speech at Baltimore in April last: "There is, therefore, but one possible response for us. Force, force, to the utmost, and force without stint or limit."

The officials are of opinion that the principal object of the Austrian Note is to convince the Austro-German peoples that their Governments really desire peace, and that this is necessitated by the highly dangerous rebellious feeling in the Central Empires, particularly in Austria.

It is pointed out that this object could be accomplished speedily and effectively by a full unqualified Austro-German acceptance of President Wilson's fourteen points as a proper basis for peace.

#### FRENCH POLITICAL CIRCLES NOT SURPRISED.

PARIS, September 16th.

The Austrian peace proposal has not surprised political circles, where it is regarded as a consequence of the Allies' military successes during the past two months.

It is the general opinion that France, Great Britain and America will refuse the offer, but there is some speculation whether or not the Allies will seize the occasion to address the peoples of the Quadruplice direct rather than their rulers.

#### MR. BALFOUR'S VIEW.

LONDON, September 16th.

Speaking at the Savoy Hotel this afternoon, Mr. A. J. Balfour, referring to the Austrian peace proposal, said he had only seen it in the newspapers and had not consulted his colleagues in the Government on the subject. He would not treat disrespectfully any proposal that would end or shorten this calamitous war, but he could not see that the Austrian proposal offered a basis for anything more than a truce.

The *Daily Telegraph* says Austria has proved that it has learnt nothing, has forgotten everything and is absurd and insincere. Matters have vitally changed since von Kuchlmann's speech. It is by no means certain nowadays that a decisive victory is impossible.

The *Morning Post* says:—To pause now would be to throw away the fruits of war and to dismiss for ever all hope of victory and betray the common cause of civilisation.

(Continued on Page 6.)



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## THE WAR.

(Continued from Page 5.)

General.

EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

### GERMANY'S PROPOSALS TO BELGIUM.

London, September 16th.

It is believed that Germany has made proposals to Belgium, promising political and economic independence after the war, provided Belgium remains neutral until the end of the war and uses her good offices to secure the return of the German colonies.

The proposal obviously is intended to cover the German flank in the event of a withdrawal from Belgium, and preventing the Allies from following up.

### "GALWAY CASTLE" TORPEDOED

London, September 16th.

The *Galway Castle*, bound for South Africa with 941 persons on board, including 300 women and children, also the South African Cabinet member, Mr. H. Burton, who was saved, was torpedoed at seven o'clock on the morning of September 16th.

One hundred and twenty passengers and 51 of the crew are missing.

The scenes at Plymouth when the *Galway Castle* survivors arrived were heartrending, owing to the tragic manner in which death had made big gaps in numbers of families. Thus numbers of children, many almost babies, caused a most pitiful scene, crying in vain for their parents, and other parents searching in all directions for their missing children.

The torpedo struck between the engine-room and the stokehold, causing the vessel to buckle in an extraordinary manner. The vessel appeared as though it would probably break in two at any moment. The influx of water was tremendous, sweeping the second engineer into the tunnel from the engine-room, where he was drowned.

A fireman had a thrilling escape. He fell through the torn side of the ship and reached the surface.

One boat was swamped while being launched, another was damaged through falling foul of a third, which was swept upon the propeller, and a fourth narrowly escaped a similar fate.

The survivors had very sad experiences in open boats, which passed many floating bodies. One woman was still clutching a baby in each arm.

Mr. Burton paid a handsome tribute to the efficiency, self-sacrifice and resource of the naval officers and ratings. Some of the bluejackets jumped into the stormy sea and rescued many.

### TIME THE WAR WAS ENDED

Amsterdam, September 16th.

There were noisy scenes at the sitting of the Berlin Municipalities, the Socialists bitterly complaining of the starvation rations. One statement, that it was time the war was ended, was received with uproarious applause from the public galleries.

### FAIR BIGAMIST SENTENCED.

London, September 15th.

Mrs. Villiers-Stuart, a prominent figure in the recent Pemberton Billing trial, was sentenced at the Old Bailey to nine months' imprisonment on a charge of bigamy.

### PRIME MINISTER'S HEALTH.

London, September 16th.

The health of Mr. Lloyd George shows a general improvement.

### Aerial Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

### AIR RAID ON PARIS.

Paris, September 16th.

Several squadrons of enemy aeroplanes bombed Paris this morning, despite an intense barrage. There were some victims, and material damage was inflicted.

Later.

This morning's air raid was the first since August 15th, and one of the most remarkable hitherto, owing to the intensity of the anti-aircraft gunfire and the determination of the raiders, indicating the enemy's desire to intimidate the population, perhaps as a part of the peace offensive.

## AERIAL OPERATIONS OVER WAR ZONE.

London, September 15th.

The Air Ministry announces:—On the battle-front, in addition to the bombing reported in yesterday's *communiqué*, we carried out the following operations:—We twice attacked Metz-Sablon, obtaining many direct hits; and the railway triangle and workshops, gas-works and barracks. We also attacked the Boulay aerodrome, with good results.

On the night of the 14th-15th inst., we kept up throughout the night heavy attacks on Metz-Sablon, Courcelles, Ehrange, Saarbrücken, Kaiserslautern, and the aerodromes at Freseney and Boulay, where we obtained many direct hits on the railway, especially at Metz-Sablon, and Courcelles, and caused several fires at Kaiserslautern and Saarbrücken station and Freseney aerodrome. Three British machines did not return.

On the morning of the 15th inst., we again attacked the Metz-Sablon railway triangle, and obtained many direct hits. Enemy scouts were active. We also bombed the Bull aerodrome. Three British machines are missing.

We also bombed the Daimler Works at Stuttgart on the 15th inst., and obtained good results. During this raid we encountered 20 hostile machines, of whom we destroyed two. All the British machines returned. We dropped 27 tons of bombs during the 24 hours.

### THE WAR MEMORIAL AN OLD SCHEME REVIVED.

(BY A LONDONER.)

Once more the need to provide a space for the memorial of those who have deserved well of the Empire has come to the front in a manner that brooks no contradiction. Once more the over-tenanted stones of Westminster Abbey cry out that there should be added to the greatest and most lovable building in Europe some worthy annex in which the dead of the next six centuries may lie side by side with the dead of the last, co-equal in honour and in our eternal gratitude co-equal. There is only one space in which the Abbey buildings can be extended. West, north, and east the urgent traffic of London hems in the great structure that from Henry to Henry summed up, and still sums up, the splendour and the pride of England.

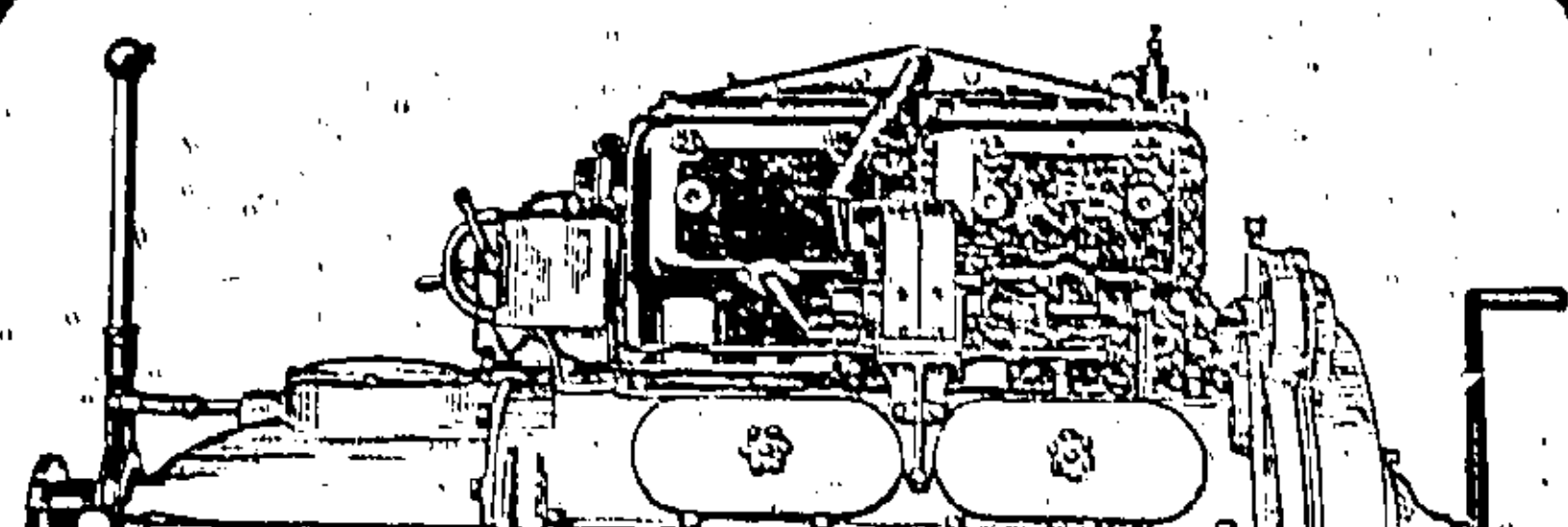
To the south alone is there room and space for this extension, and the time has come when all the land to the south of the Abbey, from the Chapter House to Wood-street, must be reclaimed from the tide of dingy brick that should never have been allowed to surge so near the pivot of all the Empire. Some years ago a beginning was made, but Mr. Labouchere's house withstood it, and the effort died out. Again and again it has been begun, and there has been some little echo. The Westminster Palace Gardens have at least been secured; but in those days there was no need at any one moment of some gigantic scheme by which to perpetuate our solemn debt to those who have died for us, for all that we hold dear, for all that civilisation means. That time has now come, and the feeling that there can be no other worthy place is quick in the souls of us all. No peddling institute to commemorate these iron days; no subscriptions.

Borne on the Imperial books, the cost of this war must be extended at least a fraction of one day longer in order that those who come after may still see beside the place where the heart of the Empire throbs something that shall record our plain thanks to the men who saved us in the day of our great and bitter need. No steel and stucco work for us—it should be as Reginald Bray may have dreamed it in the old days when that most miraculous of all roofs in the world was set up over the glass walls of Henry VII's chapel. The scheme must be of stone, as carefully tested and chosen and worded as any and every block in the Assuan dam. It should have foundations plunged into and through the London clay as deep as ever a caisson sank. In these days of show and glitter, let us have one solid and everlasting memorial of what the British Empire proved itself to be in the day of Armageddon.

The dainty little gardens and closes of College-street would have stood small chance and have been given small respect in the days of Edward or Henry. Why should they be respected now? In justice let there be the fullest compensation, but the day has come when the Empire submerges alike the country, the city, the parish, and the privilege.

We can build nowhere else; and these gathered peoples who have fought for us and ours intend to build. Ask any one of our Dominions if they would not instantly and as an honour bear the whole cost of this great memorial. Ask—and, for the sake of our great heritage, refuse. This is our business, and as plain, sane men we shall not hesitate. One with the memorials strung along our line in Flanders and in France; one with the scattered records of our lives laid down on the Peninsula, at Salonika, in Palestine, and along the river; one with the unrecorded graves of those who died in fair fight or by foulness on our sea-green acres; one with our story as a kingdom, a State, an Empire; let us sweep clear the southern aspect of the Abbey and do ourselves the honour of having done it to the memory of the men who have died to save the world.—*Daily Telegraph*.

**Scripps**



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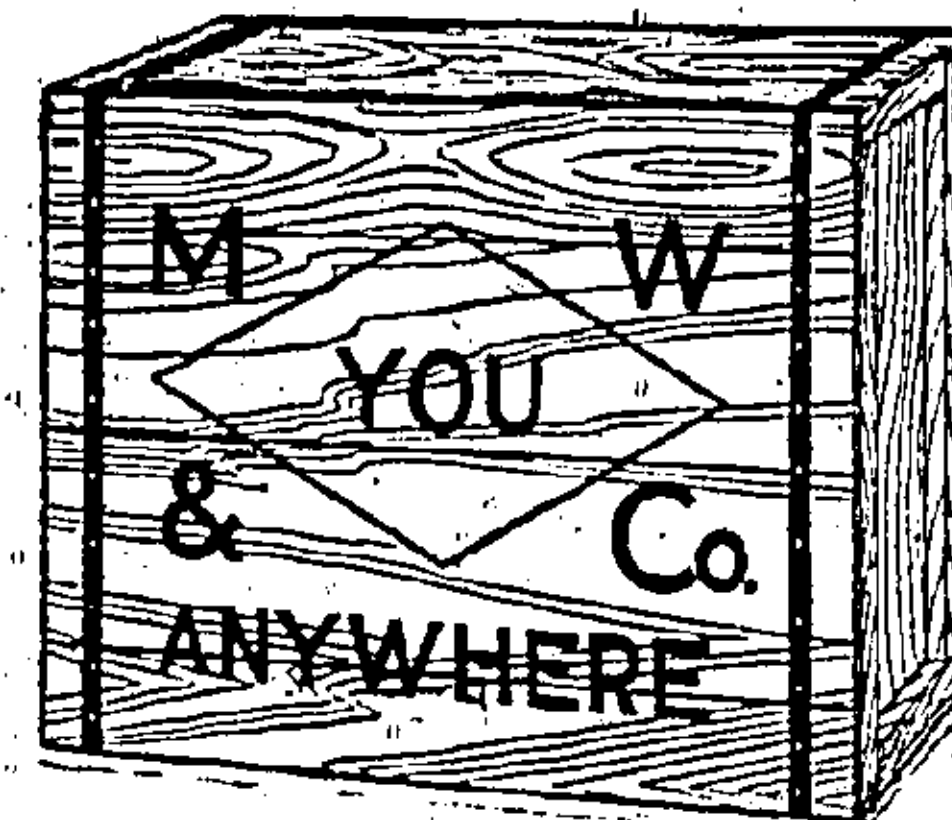
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## GERMAN LIQUID FIRE. INTERESTING BUT INEFFECTIVE FRIGHTFULNESS.

HOW FLAME ATTACKS ARE MADE.

[BY MAJOR ARLO, BRITISH MILITARY  
MISSION TO U.S.]

When the German army entered on its policy of frightfulness there was notice of its new and unprincipled methods which had more immediate and striking success than the use of liquid fire. And there is now none of all its methods of frightfulness which has fallen more into disrepute, and which has had less success when once the first surprise was over.

A great deal of attention has been drawn in the newspapers to the use of liquid fire, but the average man, even in the fighting forces, knows very little about the German methods and the appliances for its use. Yet Germany still has special troops trained in the use of liquid fire, and seeks continually to alter and develop the fire weapons and their tactical employment in order to take advantage of the undoubtedly terrible appearance and destructive power of the high temperature flames which can be emitted. This article is intended to show the stage to which the development has attained and the reasons for the relatively innocuous character of what is probably the most terror-inspiring method of modern warfare.

### THE FIRST EXPERIMENT.

Throughout 1915 England was pouring new divisions of its national army into France. As with all new troops the procedure adopted at the time was to bring these divisions by easy stages to within a short distance of the front line, and then send them in by companies for a four-day "instructional tour" in the trenches to pick up all the wrinkles and habits from the seasoned troops holding the line. After the whole formation had been put through in this way the division would be allotted a definite part of the line, taking it over possibly from the troops with whom it had been in for instruction and allowing the latter to get out for a much needed rest, or to get "fattened up" for some impending or progressing attack elsewhere.

One such new division, absolutely fresh from England and with no war experience whatever, was the target selected by the Boche for his new devilry. The portion of line allotted to this division was on the outermost part of the Xprens salient and included the salient of the little village of Hooge right at the point of the salient. This position had always been a hot corner—"unhealthy" in the British army parlance—and had changed hands several times. The trenches there were poor, as it was almost impossible to get effective work done on them owing to their exposed position. Indeed there were many parts of the line where no movement was possible by day and the men on the posts had to lie "doggo" until night. The two lines were very close together—in many places less than twenty yards—and it was quite possible to hurl hand grenades from one set of trenches to the other. It was on this position of the line, over a front held by two battalions, that the attack was made.

### A TERRIBLE SURPRISE.

After a bombardment of several days, a mine was exploded under the front of the line and then immediately afterwards, at 3.30 on the morning of the 29th of July and without the slightest warning, the front line troops were enveloped in flames. Where the flames came from could not be seen. All that the men knew was that they seemed surrounded by fierce, curling flames which were accompanied by a loud roaring noise and dense clouds of black smoke. Here and there a big blob of burning oil would fall into a trench or a saphead. Shouts and yells rent the air as individual men, rising up in the trenches or attempting to move in the open, felt the force of the flames. The only way to safety appeared to be the road. "This direction the men that were left took. For a short space the flames pursued them, and the local retirement became a local rout. Then the flames stopped and machine-guns began to take toll of the fugitives. Only one man from the front trenches is known to have returned. German infantry following up, poured into the breach in the line, widened it, took our positions as far back as Sanctuary Wood, and then consolidated.

Ten days afterwards we counter-attacked and won back the whole of the line concerned, but at very considerable cost. Incidentally, we captured two of the German flame-projectors, one of them complete, and they proved to be of the greatest possible use to us subsequently for educating the army in the new warfare and for inspection by our own experts with a view to their duplication for retaliation.

Any one attempting to blame the troops attacked for their retirement can hardly appreciate the circumstances, and, I am convinced, overestimates his own capacity for resistance.

### THE APPARATUS.

The flame projectors taken by the 14th Division in the counter-attack were simple but very interesting in construction. The main part was a cylindrical vessel of steel about two feet in height and fifteen inches in diameter provided with straps so that it could be carried on a man's back. At one side about two-thirds of the way up was a filling hole for oil, closed by a screw cap. Near the top was a pressure gauge attachment and toward the base was a lock closed by a

lever handle and to which could be attached a long length of flexible hose ending in a peculiar shaped nozzle.

On examination it was found that the body of the projector was divided internally into two compartments which could be connected by opening another tap. The upper compartment was the compressor and the lower the oil reservoir. The compressor chamber was filled to a pressure of twenty-three atmospheres with deoxygenated air or nitrogen. Air itself cannot be used because of its oxygen content forming an explosive mixture with the vapours from the oil, and any heating on compression, or back-flash from the flame or fuse, might make things very unpleasant for the operator. The nitrogen required for the flame projectors is carried into the field in large cylinders about four feet six inches in length and six inches in diameter. Several of these cylinders have been captured from the enemy since. These cylinders are actually taken into the trenches and the flame projectors charged from them there.

The combustible liquid used in the flame-throwers has varied in source and composition from time to time, but it invariably has one characteristic which appears to be essential for good results—it must have light or easily volatile and heavy and less volatile fractions mixed in carefully graded proportions. The heavy oil has sometimes been a petroleum product and sometimes a tarry residual oil from the distillation of wood.

The lighting device, fixed at the end of the flexible hose, is the most ingenious part of the whole contrivance and is so made that the oil ignites spontaneously the minute the jet is turned on, and is kept alight by a fiercely burning mixture which lasts throughout the discharge.

The nozzle is about nine inches long and detachable so that replacement is easy. It clips into the end of the tube and is held in position by an annular ring. When the oil with its twenty-three atmospheres pressure behind it is rushed out of the jet, it forces up the plunger of a friction lighter and ignites a core of a fierce burning fuse mixture which fills the whole of the space between the central tube and an outer casing. The latter consists of a thick wick soaked in paraffin wax and fitting loosely into a thin brass case.

When the nozzle is in position all that is necessary is to turn on the tap, and the stream of flame issues from the tube and can be directed at will.

### THE FLAMMENWERFER COMPANIES.

The official name for the instrument we discovered was the "Flammenwerfer" (flame thrower) and it is now more known in the British army by anything else than its German name. Indeed this is one of the very few German words we have adopted as an outcome of the war, the only others I can remember being "strafe" and "Kamerad."

Flammenwerfer attacks are made by the 3rd and 4th Guard Pioneer Battalions and by the Guard Reserve Pioneer Regiment—all of which troops are specially trained in flame tactics. Each battalion is composed of six companies and each company is equipped with 18 small or portable projectors similar to that described above, and with 20-22 large projectors of greater range. The latter large flammenwerfer are built on the same principle as the former, but are too heavy to be used as mobile weapons. They are consequently built in to the trenches at about 27 yards from the opposing lines, and if the trenches are not close enough together for the purpose, special saps are pushed out and the flammenwerfer installed at the end. The range of these large projectors is 30-40 yards and they can cover a front of 55 yards with flames. It is probable that in the attack at Hooge both large and small flammenwerfer were employed.

It is possible with the above equipment for a flame company to cover a total front of 1,100-1,600 yards.

Service in the Guard Reserve Pioneers is apparently a form of punishment. Men convicted of offences in other regiments are transferred either for a time or permanently, and are forced under threat of death to engage in the most hazardous enterprises and carry out the most dangerous work. The following incident will serve to show how the German soldiers are founded to their death in these engagements.

### A NEW TYPE OF FLAMMENWERFER.

In the summer of last year a small flammenwerfer attack was made against our line at a point near Monchy, south of Arras. Two Boches armed with flame projectors of a modified pattern were instructed to attack one of our advanced posts which was at the head of a sap running out toward the German trenches. In broad daylight and with no covering fire worth talking about these two poor devils were forced over the top with revolvers pressed into their backs. One was shot down immediately. The other managed to get clear of his own barbed wire and then discarded his apparatus, with the intention of crawling over to us and deserting. By this time, however, he had been badly shot up—whether by his own people as well as by us, I cannot say. His left arm and his right thigh were both smashed, and he had two bullets in his abdomen. Nevertheless, this man managed to crawl into our lines and was taken care of. He was sent down to a Casualty Clearing Station in a perilous condition, but despite his terrible injuries I understand the doctors managed to patch him up, and that he recovered completely.

### THE LATEST FLAMMENWERFER.

In the pattern he used compressed nitrogen contained in a spherical vessel which is contained inside a ring-shaped oil container. The whole thing looks like a life preserver and is mounted on a light frame so that it can be comfortably

carried on the back. For a man who may suddenly have to get down on his stomach and crawl, the apparatus is much more compact and better fitting to the body than the original type, but it has no advantage over the older varieties as regards range or duration.

The flexible hose which carries the lighting nozzle is made of canvas and rubber, and enemy documents which have been captured show that only one tube is provided for each three reservoirs. After the discharge of one apparatus the long tube is supposed to be fitted with a new nozzle and handed on to the others in succession.

The flammenwerfer companies are divided into squads, *Großtruppe* or *Kleintruppe*, according as they are armed with a large or small projector. The former is a contraction for *Grosser flammenwerfertruppe* (large flame projector squad), and the latter for *Kleiner flammenwerfertruppe* (small flame projector squad).

In the case of attacks with the large projectors, or a combined attack with both sizes, the chief thing is secrecy of installation in the trenches. If it was ascertained or suspected that flammenwerfer were being put in, our gunners would open on the position in no time and and blow the apparatus sky-high. As it is necessary to sap out to within 50 yards of our lines in order to get in a "saps" it can readily be seen that the possibilities of using the large projectors are very limited, and as a matter of fact little use has been made of them.

Attacks with the portable projectors are more possible owing to their greater mobility. But here again the essential part of the tactics and the most difficult thing to do is to get near enough the target to make the shot effective. The range is only fifty to sixty feet. The German idea is to cover the advance of the "Kleif" men by machine-gun fire. The attacking force, the "Kleiftruppe" is in front, then a party of bombers, and finally the raiding or attacking party takes up its position in no man's land and crawls as far forward as possible in the "protected area."

### SOME DISADVANTAGES.

In an attack of this kind, or a less well supported attack such as that at Arras, mentioned above, the attackers suffer from two such severe disadvantages that against well-disciplined troops they stand little chance. These disadvantages are (1) the flammenwerfer carriers have to get so near their objective that they are almost certain to be shot at and they then become a source of danger to their own side; (2) men in trenches know they are perfectly safe from frontal flame attack if they keep well down and hug the parapet side of the trench. The reason for this is that the flame will not sink down into a trench, but having little force behind it at the end of its journey is curled upward by the rising currents of hot air. The result is that any sort of head cover (unless made of wood) makes perfect protection, and a man crouching in a trench or even lying prone in a shell hole, is very unlikely to be more than slightly scorched at the very worst. I can vouch for this, for I have lain at the bottom of a trench with the flames playing over my head and have not been injured in the slightest, though I confess to being very much relieved when the flame stopped. The only danger in trenches to men who keep their heads in that of "blobs" of burning oil falling from the end of the fiery stream, but this is not a very serious chance.

Another serious disability in the German liquid fire is its very short duration. The stream of flame from the portable flammenwerfer lasts rather less than one minute. It is impossible to charge up again on the spot, and the result is that once the flame stops the whole game is finished and the operators are at our mercy. Without making the apparatus of a prohibitive weight the duration of the flame cannot be increased. Even the heavy projectors give only a flame lasting at the best one minute and a quarter.

### DISCIPLINE DOES IT.

It must be realised that it is discipline and coolness (if one may use the word) which count, and that the moral effect on the enemy, unaware of the fact that the appalling flames have little destructive value, may be very great indeed. When men have bolted from the trenches into the open they are an easy prey.

A certain amount of value was obtained from their use in the attack on Verdun for reducing isolated strong-points, notably fortified farmhouses and broken down cottages in the ruined villages. In certain cases the flame projector carriers were enabled to approach under cover or by crawling among the ruins and heaps of debris, to within striking distance of the otherwise well-protected machine-gun emplacements and positions. By suddenly playing the fire jet into the loopholes, enough flame penetrated into the interior of the emplacement to put the machine-gun and its crew out of action—either temporarily or permanently. This was the opportunity awaited by the sapping party of bombers who would rush the minute the flame ceased, having made their approach while the projectors were in action.

But even for special cases like these the circumstances must be so favourable and the inherent disadvantages are so great that the flammenwerfer cannot be counted on to attain the required result. The low value placed by the Allies on the German flame attack can be realized from the fact that no special form of fire-proof clothing or other protection is issued to the troops, and the instructions for meeting the attack may be summarized as "Shoot the man carrying the apparatus before he gets in his shot if possible. If this cannot be done take cover from the flames and shoot him afterwards."

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| KOREA MARU   | 20,000 | THURS., 31st Oct. |
| SIBERIA MARU | 20,000 | TUES., 19th Nov.  |
| TENYO MARU   | 22,000 | SAT., 23rd Nov.   |

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| Steamers    | Tons   | Leave Hongkong |
|-------------|--------|----------------|
| ANYO MARU   | 18,500 | Sept. 25th.    |
| NIPPON MARU | 11,000 | Nov. 8th.      |

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NORTH AMERICAN LINE—Regular fortnightly service between Hongkong and Peking, with ports tonking at intermediate ports in Japan.

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"MEXICO MARU" ... MONDAY, 23rd Sept. at 2 P.M.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE—Every two months the steamer proceeding to Rio de Janeiro, Santos and Buenos Aires, via Singapore, Mauritius, Durban and Cape Town.

BOMBAY LINE—Regular fortnightly service for Bombay sailing at Singapore, and Colombo.

JAVA LINE—Monthly service for Batavia, Sourabaya and Samarang.

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FORMOSA LINE—The steamers will arrive at and depart from the SOON YIP WHARF, near the Harbour Office, and while the steamer is alongside the Wharf Telephone No. 76 will be fixed.

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TAKAO via SWATOW and AMOY.

"SOSHU MARU" ... THURSDAY, 26th Sept. at 9 A.M.

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